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NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. W. W. CALKINS returned to Chicago from his collecting trip in Tennessee May 1.

A MONOGRAPH of the *Myxogastres* covering 367 octavo pages and illustrated with twelve colored plates has recently been published by Mr. George Massee.

THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY at Wood's Holl opens its fifth season June 1. The botanical instruction will be in charge of Mr. W. A. Setchell of Yale University.

DR. F. ELFVING, of the University of Helsingfors, and Dr. M. Möbius, of the University of Heidelberg, have each been promoted from docent to a professorship in their respective institutions.

DR. J. C. ARTHUR sails for Europe June 4, for a two months' trip, principally in Germany. He goes largely to ascertain the possibilities and promote the interests of the Botanical Congress of 1893.

THE HERBARIUM of the University of Minnesota is growing so rapidly that the item published in the March number was out of date. That collection now contains upward of 60,000 plants, of which 25,000 are spermatophytes.

MM. L. MESCHINELLI AND S. SQUINABOL propose to publish, if sufficient encouragement thereto is offered, a work which is ready for press, on the Tertiary flora of Italy. 114 genera of cryptogams and 333 of phanerogams are known from this formation in Italy.

MR. WALTER H. EVANS is now in Arizona, in the employ of the Department of Agriculture, collecting living desert plants for the Columbian Exposition. It is the purpose of the Department to represent as completely as possible the characteristic vegetation of our southwestern arid regions.

AN APPRECIATIVE sketch of Sereno Watson appears in the *Bull. Torr. Bot. Club* (April) from the pen of Mr. Walter Deane. Mr. Deane is peculiarly qualified to write concerning Dr. Watson, as their intimate personal acquaintance brought the subject very often under the observation of the writer.

DR. THOS. C. PORTER has just described (*Bull. Torr. Bot. Club*, April) two new *Eupatoriums*, one from Tennessee, the other from New Jersey; four new varieties of as many species of *Solidago*; a new species of *Solidago* whose name, *S. Roanensis*, suggests its habitat; and a new *Tripsacum* from Florida.

THE DISAPPEARANCE of *Desmodium* from our flora, threatened by a botanist who curiously enough can sign himself "O. K.," is emphasized by Anna M. Vail in *Bulletin of Torrey Botanical Club* (April), who presents the synonymy of the genus *Meibomia*, as it occurs in the United States and British America.

THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLE in the last number of *Flora* (1892, Heft 2) is on the photometric movements of plants by F. Oltmanns. Shorter articles are by J. Sachs, physiological notes, A. Doyel on the morphology and development of the starch grains of *Pellionia*, and F. Noll on the culture of marine algæ in aquaria.

FLORA FRANCISCANA, Part III, presents the following orders and sequence: Papaveraceæ, Nymphææ, Sarraceneæ, Drosereæ, Laurineæ, Berberideæ, Ranunculaceæ, Sarmientosæ (Vitaceæ), Araliaceæ, Umbelliferae, Corneæ, Elaeagneæ, Daphnoideæ (Thymelaeaceæ), Santalaceæ, Lorantheæ, Caprifoliaceæ, Rubiaceæ, Valerianeæ.

THE USUAL summer courses in botany at Harvard University are announced. Mr. W. F. Ganong and Mr. G. J. Pierce will conduct two courses each in morphology and physiology and in histology, while Mr. A. B. Seymour offers (for advanced students only) two courses, one in general cryptogamic botany and one in economic mycology.

MESSRS. J. K. SMALL and Luther D. Reed will make a botanical expedition during the coming season from the southwestern corner of Virginia to the Mississippi river along the southern border of Kentucky. The region is a rich collecting field but little explored. Those desiring to arrange for the purchase of sets of specimens can address Mr. Reed at Lancaster, Pa.

MR. JOHN S. WRIGHT has accepted the position of botanist in the pharmaceutical establishment of Eli Lilly & Sons, Indianapolis, Ind., as successor to Walter H. Evans, who resigned to take a position in the botanical division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Wright enters upon his duties in June at the completion of his undergraduate studies in Purdue University.

THE SECRETARY of the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science has decided to postpone the publication of the proceedings of the society for 1891 until after the next meeting, which occurs in August. The unfortunate delay is necessitated by the failure of the printing firm having the contract to resume work since their establishment was destroyed by fire in January last.

IN THE SUMMER SCHOOL of the University of Wisconsin, courses in botany planned with special reference to high school teachers are offered. One is a "model course," embracing instruction in the method and on the topics which Prof. Barnes thinks desirable and practicable in high schools having limited equipment. Advanced work in anatomy is also offered.

SOME IDEA of the growing attractiveness of the Royal Gardens at Kew may be obtained from the report of the number of visitors in each decennial year, a record which now covers 50 years. In 1841 there were 9,174 visitors; in 1851, 327,900; in 1861, 480,070; in 1871, 577,084; in 1881, 836,676; in 1891, 1,373,753. On a single holiday, (May 26, 1890), the attendance was 106,808.

DR. J. H. SANDBERG, Messrs. D. T. MacDougal and A. A. Heller have gone to Idaho under the auspices of the Botanical Division of the Department of Agriculture to make an extended botanical exploration along the Clear Water river, the Nez Perces Reservation, thence northward to the Bitter Root mountains, and down into the Clark Fork of the Columbia river. Their headquarters are at Lewiston, Idaho.

THE EXPEDITION TO WESTERN AFRICA under the direction of Mr. O. F. Cook, of Syracuse University, has been unfortunate and has accomplished much less than anticipated on account of tropical fever.

Every member of the company has been ill, necessitating a complete change in the original plans. Mr. Cook expects to again attempt to penetrate the interior of Moravia, and then return to America the coming August. The other members of the expedition will probably return sooner.

THE CONSTITUTION and list of members of the Ohio Academy of Sciences have been issued as a twelve-page pamphlet. The Academy was organized Dec. 31, 1891, with fifty-four charter members. The Nebraska Academy of Sciences was organized Jan. 1, 1891, with forty charter members. It has published the constitution and list of members in an eight-page pamphlet, and more recently a twenty-four page pamphlet containing abstracts of papers read at the second annual meeting Dec. 31, 1891, largely botanical.

THE ITALIAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY on behalf of the city of Genoa, Italy, invites the botanists of every nationality to a Botanical International Congress to be held Sept. 4 to 11, 1892, in commemoration of the fourth centennial of the discoveries of Columbus, a citizen of Genoa. It will also be the occasion of the opening of a new Botanical Institute and of a horticultural exhibition. Excursions and other festivities are offered by the municipality of Genoa and also by the Botanical Society. It is hoped to make the gathering truly cosmopolitan.

THE JOURNAL OF MYCOLOGY, issued by the Division of Vegetable Pathology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is constantly increasing in size and interest. The last number contains seventy pages of original matter on plant diseases and new species of fungi, illustrated with seven plates and several text cuts. Seven publications are reviewed at considerable length, and the number closes with forty-two pages of index to current literature. This index is a most commendable and useful feature and especially as at present conducted. The citations are followed in each case by a brief résumé of contents of the work. The Chief of the Division thoughtfully offers to supply extra copies of the index to those who wish to arrange the numbers in a card catalogue.

AN UNUSUAL NUMBER of Experiment Station bulletins containing botanical matter have been issued in the last month. The Arizona Station proposes (No. 5) to make a study of the native *Rumex hymenosepalus*, locally known as cañaigre, as a tannin producing plant. F. H. Hillman (Nev., No. 15) describes and illustrates *Cuscuta epithymum*, *C. arvensis*, and *C. denticulata* as pests of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*). Fungous diseases of plants and their treatment are discussed by W. C. Sturgis (Conn., No. 111), L. H. Pammel (Iowa, No. 16), S. A. Beach (N. Y., No. 40), S. T. Maynard (Hatch, No. 17), J. C. Arthur (Ind., No. 39) and C. F. Millsbaugh (W. Va., No. 21). Geo. F. Atkinson (Ala., No. 36) gives an interesting and extended account of his study of yellow leaf blight of cotton, a physiological disease. The annual reports of New Jersey (1890), Connecticut (1891) and Indiana (1891) Stations also contain matter on plant diseases by B. D. Halsted, R. Thaxter and J. C. Arthur respectively. Nearly all of these articles are well illustrated.